

TUESDAY, MARCH 5, 1745.

the AUTHOR of the DAILY GAZETTEER.

SIR,

S the overflowing of the Lake Erris in Ireland makes a great Noise in that Country, and is like to make no less here, permit me to send you a Paper which I had by me, written by Mr. Charles Townley, and directed by him to Richard Townley, Esq; relating to an extraordinary Event, of a Nature which may, probably, amuse your mind, and the Sentiments of the Learned in that Country.

I am Your Friend and Servant,

S. B.

April 18, 1669, between Nine and Ten o'Clock Morning, there issued out of the N. W. Side of a Hill, a great Quantity of Water, the Part of which Eruption, as I received them from a man living hard by, are these. The Water continuing for about two Hours; it came in that manner, and so suddenly, that it made a Breach of it high not unlike (as the Gentleman express'd it) the Eyer at Roan in Normandy, or Ouse in York-shire, grew unfordable in so short a Space, that two Church on Horseback, the one having pass'd where it took its Course, the other being a behind, could not pass this sudden Torrent. It grew breaking down a Mill Dam, came into several Houses in Worston (a Village at the Foot of the Hill) that several Things swam in them. It issued out in six several Places, one of which was much bigger than the rest, and brought with it a great deal of Stone, Gravel, and Earth. He more-over, that the greatest of these six Places closed up, and lastly, that 50 or 60 Years ago there was an Eruption much greater than this; so that much endamag'd the adjacent Country, and two Clorbs or Dingles, which, to this Day, are called Ouse (or in our Lancashire Dialect, *Erst*) and thus far this Gentleman related; what follow'd from myself: Going since this, to see the Cause of this Accident, I found nothing that contradicted the above said Relation. What I observed more concerning this, and other Eruptions, is, that under the N. E. End, commonly called the End of Pendle, I saw several Breaches in the Earth, at several Distances from the Top; from which, mix'd with Earth, had been tumbled down in such a confus'd Order, as if they had been brought thither by such a like Eruption as this, and requiring of a Country Fellow, who was a confirmed Conjecturer; and told us, that breakings out of Water were very frequent, so that wonder'd we took so much Pains to go and see one. I went to look amongst the Rub-bish and Earth, of one of these Breaches, to see if I could find any thing like Ore, but could find none. Having pass'd the End of the Hill, and coming to the other Side, we, after a short Time, discovered the mentioned six Breaches; of which two were to be very near the Top of the Hill, and in the horizontal Line; the others at several Distances from the Top. I went only to the biggest of these Breaches, in which I observed these Particulars. The Earth had taken away the Soil, which was but two Foot deep, and bared the Rock between the Top and Thirty Yards in Breadth, and down to a considerable deal more. It appeared evident, that the Water came from between the Rub-bish and the Rock; for at the Top of the Breach several Holes, whereat the Water had issued out, were closed up with the Fall of the Earth. Wherefore the Water had taken away two Holes of the Earth, the Rock appeared among the Rub-bish; I found nothing that could be supposed to be the Cause of the Breach, but only such as might lie loose on the Rock, amongst the Rub-bish which cover'd it. This is what I observed in the Breach, which for Bigness was most remarkable, and which I should have found nothing worth Notice, had I not seen the Noife of this Eruption was so great, that I thought it worth my Pains to enquire into it; yet, in all these Particulars, I find no-

thing worthy of Wonder, or what may not be easily accounted for. The Colour of the Water, its coming down to the Place where it breaks forth between the Rock and Earth, with that other Particular of its bringing nothing along but Stones and Earth, are evident Signs that it hath not its Origin from the very Bowels of the Mountain; but that it is only Rain-Water, colour'd first in the Moss Pits, of which the Top of the Hill (being a great and considerable Plain) is full struck down into some Receptacle fit to contain it; until at last, by its Weight, or some other Cause, it finds a Passage to the Side of the Hill, and then away between the Rock and Swarth, until it break the latter, and violently rush out. The great Eruption mention'd to have happened so many Years ago, perhaps, is that taken Notice of by Camden in his *Britannia*, p. 613. *Verum his mons damno quid subiecto agro jampridem intulit maximam aquarum vim eructant. Et certissimo plurima indicio, quous ejus vertex nebula vestitur, maxime insignis est.* I know not whether it may not be worth Notice, that going to the Top of the Hill, and observing a considerable Part thereof, especially towards the Skirts, where Turfs had been gotten, I found that the Rock reach'd within a Yard or two of the highest Part; considering this, with what I observed at the mentioned Breach, and several other Places, I think it is very probable that the whole Mountain, as great as it is, is one continued Rock; and it may be a Question, whether all other Hills be so or no? But this I leave to further Enquiry.

I R E L A N D.

Dublin, February 26. Last Saturday died, after a long Illness, at his Lodgings on Ormond Quay, the Reverend James Smith, A. M. Minister of the Dissenting Congregation in Mary's Abbey.

The same Night Mr. Alexander Shelley, an eminent Preacher among the People call'd Quakers, was married to Mrs. Sarah Allcock, of Bifella, in the County of Kildare, a Widow Lady, with a Jointure of 200l. per Annum.

Last Sunday an Express arrived from London; and as an Embargo was Yesterday laid here on all Beef, Butter, and Tallow, 'tis thought, that the Orders for that Purpose were the Import of the Dispatches.

The Ubrua, Elionara of Stockholm, Capt. Fienebert, from Bristol, stranded lately on the South Side of the Piles, but got safe into the Harbour the 24th Instant.

S C O T L A N D.

Edinburgh, February 25. Last Week the Right Hon. James Stuart, Earl of Galloway, departed this Life at his Seat at Glafston in the County of Wigton, in a very advanced Age. He was a Nobleman of real Merit, and a strenuous Lover of his Country. He is succeeded in Honours, and an opulent Estate, by Alexander Lord Gairlis, his eldest Son.

Last Thursday died at Inveresk Mr. George Orr, an eminent Wine Merchant of this City.

Last Week a Petition of several Merchants in Glasgow was presented to the Right Hon. my Lord Justice Clerk, and other Commissioners of Justiciary, praying Warrant for transporting the Person of Thomas (alias Margaret) Johnston, and Margaret Grier, from the Prison of Renfrew to that of Air: Which their Lordships granted.

As the Grounds for this Application are, perhaps, the most uncommon ever yet heard of, we shall give our Readers an honest Abstract of the History, from authentic Vouchers.

The above Johnston and Grier had lived for two Years in Glasgow, as Shopkeepers in Company, and as Man and Wife. At Whitunday last Thomas (alias Margaret) Johnston, took a Shop at Greenock, leaving Margaret Grier to hold her Shop at Glasgow: However, they frequently met, and continued their Trade of Linen Yarn, &c. and drew, or accepted Bills, to the amount of 3 or 400 l. Sterling.—But it being strongly surmised that Johnston was a Woman in Mens Cloaths, he was on the 3d of January last cited before the Magistrates of Glasgow; where he declared that he was married to Margaret Grier, and that they had been irregularly married; whereupon the Magistrates fined him in 4 l. 2 s. to the Poor.—This served only to increase Peoples Suspicion of Johnston's Womanhood; so that fearing the Secret must out, they privately disposed of their Effects, and retired to Greenock. Their Creditors took the Alarm, and obtained Recommendations from the Magistrates of Glasgow, for apprehending Johnston and Grier; who soon after fled from Greenock also, and carried their

best Effects with 'em in a Boat. Mr. Wright, Door for the Creditors, having obtained Recommendations from Baillie Anderson in Greenock, for securing Johnston and Grier, put to Sea after them; and after long Search, found Johnston and Grier, with what Effects they had, secreted in a Cave, on the Isle of Little Cumbray. They were accordingly brought Prisoners on Saturday the 16th to Greenock, and next Day to Renfrew. On Monday the 18th Inst. John Somervil, Esq; Provost of Renfrew, examined Thomas Johnston, who declared: That he was born in the Parish of Larbour, and had been married 15 Months to Margaret Grier; and that he intended to do all Justice to his Creditors. Provost Somervil examined Margaret Grier, who declared she was born in Glasgow, had been married to Thomas Johnston at Edinburgh, 15 Months ago; and that she and Husband intended the fair Thing by all Mankind.—But a Quorum of their Creditors, from Glasgow, having petitioned Provost Somervil, to cause scrutinize the Person of Thomas Johnston, in regard they firmly believed she was a Woman; His Lordship appointed three Persons to retire, and make proper Enquiry; who soon after returned into Court, and emitted the following Declarations.

Compared John Jackson, Town-Officer of Renfrew, aged 37, married; who being solemnly sworn, &c. deposes, That he has viewed and inspected the Body of Thomas Johnston; and which Johnston is in Man's Habit: And deposes, that the said Johnston is truly and really a Woman. *Causa scientia patet.* And this is Truth, &c.

Compared Robert Knox, Town-Officer of Renfrew, aged 44, who being solemnly sworn, purged, &c. deposes, That he has viewed and inspected the Body of Thomas Johnston; and which Johnston is in Man's Habit: And deposes, that the said Johnston is truly and really a Woman. *Causa scientia patet.* And this is Truth, &c.

Notwithstanding the *causa scientia* was *patet* to these Witnesses, yet the said Johnston continued obstinate in asserting that her Name was Thomas Johnston, when interrogat by Provost Somervil after the Scrutiny; but refuse to sign the above, or any Declaration.

Glasgow, February 26. The Don Carlos of Bruntisland, David Ballantine, from Norway, is arrived at Leith. She fell in with Yelmouth the 14th Inst. and was chased off that Port till she came into 18 Foot Water, by a Hov Privateer. But two Cobles, &c. coming out to their Assistance, while they were about to take to the Boat and sink their Vessel, the Privateer thought fit to sheer off.

The Hon. Sir John Bruce's Regiment is soon expected here from Ireland.

Last Saturday one Thomas (alias Margaret) Johnston, with Margaret Grier, his Wife, or her Mate, were brought in here from Renfrew, and committed to Prison, accused of Fraud.

The Commissary here has struck the Fairs for Crop, 1744; viz. the Meal at 6 s. 5 d. Bear at 5 l. 18 s.

C O U N T R Y N E W S.

Bristol, March 2. Yesterday one of our Merchants received an Express, that a French East India Ship is put into Combe, which was taken by the Sheerness, a Man of War of 26 Guns, purchased by some Merchants of this City. Capt. John Furnell, Commander; she came from Mocho in the East Indies, her Burthen 300 Tons, and has on board 200 Tons of the very best Coffee, and other rich Goods, valued at about 30,000 l. She proves to be the Redoubtable, a prime Sailor, of 10 Gun, and the Ship that carried the Advice of the War to the East Indies. Capt. Furnell came up with her near the Western Islands; and on the 17th of February, 15 Leagues off Cape Clear, he was left in Chase of a French Galliot of 400 Tons.

Norwich, March 2. In the Night between Wednesday and Thursday last, the House of Isaac Timperly, in Packthorp, was broke open, and the Thief went into his Lodging-room, and took his Breeces and Watch, and his Wife's Pocket, with above 20 s. in Money, and a great deal of Linen and other Things out of other Rooms.

H O M E P O R T S.

Dublin, February 26. Arrived the Woodstock, Exeter, from New York. Sailed the Fidelity, Wall, for Lisbon; the Hope, Lourniz, for Zurichzee; the Notre Dame of Dabralask, Bryant, for Bourdeaux.

Greenock, February 21. Arrived the St Anthony, Al-langarie, from London. Sailed the Christian of Virginia, Petticrew, for Havre de Grace; the Glasgow Packet,

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